

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A device used in connection with a network, said device comprising:

a communication unit configured to communicate with a client via
5 said network;

an identification unit configured to input OS information representing an operating system installed in said client to identify a type of said operating system used in said client;

a search unit configured to search a storage location on said network
10 of device control software, which corresponds to said identified type of said operating system and controls said device, from a database in which specifications of operating systems and storage locations of device control software are recorded in association with each other; and

an information unit configured to inform said client of said searched
15 storage location of said device control software.

2. A device according to claim 1,

wherein said communication unit communicates based on HTTP, and

said information unit generates and sends to said client a markup

20 language file including a link to the storage location of said device control software.

3. A device according to claim 1,

wherein said communication unit communicates based on HTTP, and

25 said OS information is described as environment variable in a HTTP request sent from said client.

4. A device according to claim 1,

wherein said database is stored in a predetermined server connected

30 to said device via said network.

5. A device according to claim 4,
 wherein said storage locations in said database are also recorded in
 association with model information of devices, and

5 said search unit uses the model information of said device and said
 identified type of said operating system to search the storage location of said
 device control software.

6. A device according to claim 1,
 10 wherein said database is described in XML.

7. A device used in connection with a network, said device
 comprising:

15 a storage unit configured to store an URL for download
 corresponding to a Web page which provides device control software to
 control said device on The Internet;

20 a HTTP communication unit configured to generate a markup
 language file including a link to said URL for download and to send said
 markup language file back to a client through a HTTP response in response
 to a HTTP request from said client.

8. A device according to claim 7,
 wherein said storage unit stores an URL for update corresponding to
 a Web page which provides update information to update said URL for
 25 download, and said device further comprising:

 an update unit configured to acquire said update information from
 said Web page based on said URL for update and to utilize said update
 information to update said URL for download.

9. A method for informing a client of a storage location on a network

of device control software to control a device, wherein said device communicates with said client via said network, said method comprising:

inputting OS information representing an operating system installed in said client from said client to identify a type of said operating system used
5 by said client;

searching a storage location on said network of device control software corresponding to said identified type of said operating system from a database in which specifications of operating systems and storage locations of device control software are recorded in association with each other; and

10 informing said client of said searched storage location of said device control software.